STIC Search Report
EIC 3600

STIC Database Tracking Number: 107703

Darren Ark
Location Knx 4D05
Art Unit: 3643
Employee# 73077
Tuesday, February 03, 2009
Case Serial Number: 09/628463

From: Etelka R. Griffin
Location: EIC 3600
KNOX/4B68
Phone:571-272-4230

Etelka.griffin@uspto.gov

Search Notes

Attached are Litigation Search Results in:
Lexis Nexis
Courtlink
Questel Orbit

No Litigation was found for Serial Number 09/628463.
If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Thanks
Etelka

628463 (09) 6370811 April 16, 2002

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE GRANTED PATENT

6370811

April 16, 2002

Apparatus and method for monitoring termite activity

APPL-NO: 628463 (09)

FILED-DATE: July 31, 2000

GRANTED-DATE: April 16, 2002

CORE TERMS: bait, flag, cavity, organisms, barrier, entrance, housing, termite, soil, porous ...

ENGLISH-ABST:

Apparatus, for detecting the presence and eating activity of organisms such as termites that damage structures, includes a body; a wooden bait element controllably exposed to the organisms within a cavity of the body, and having an applied bait substance; a side wall of the body having a vertically spaced plurality of smoothly converging entrance passages for admitting the organisms, a consumable porous barrier covering each of the entrance passages. Spring tension is applied to an upper end of the bait element, an opposite end being anchored to the body. A flag member that is connected to the upper end of the bait element projects from the body when the bait element is weakened to the predetermined amount by the organisms.

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race	rose	New York	winner
shot	coach	champion	Commerce Department
six-tenth	playoff	six-story	beat
victory	six-pack	six-under-par	economy
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or	or	w/seg	in same segment
w/N	within N words	w/s	in same sentence
pre/N	precedes by N words	and not	and not

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Patent Search 6370811 2/3/2009

No cases found.

Return to Search

(Charges for search still apply)

1 / 1 FAMPAT - ©Questel

Family Accession Nbr :
20042800562395

Patent Number :
US6370811 B1 20020416 [US6370811]

Title :
Apparatus and method for monitoring termite activity

Inventor(s) :
MASTERSON MICHAEL J

Application Nbr :
2000US-0628463 20000731

Priority Details :
2000US-0628463 20000731

IPC :
A01M-001/02
A01M-001/10
A01M-001/20

IPC Advanced All :
A01M-001/02 [2006-01 A - I R M EP]; A01M-001/20 [2006-01 A - I R M EP]

IPC Core All :
A01M-001/02 [2006 C - I R M EP]; A01M-001/20 [2006 C - I R M EP]

ECLA :
A01M-001/02E
A01M-001/20B1

ICO Code :
K01M-200/011

US Class :
ORIGINAL (O) : 043121000; CROSS-REFERENCE (X) : 043124000 043131000 043132100 340573100

Citations :
(US6370811)
Cited in the search report
-US6016625(A) [US6016625]
-US6065241(A) [US6065241]
-US6100805(A) [US6100805]
-US6158166(A) [US6158166]
-US6189393(B1) [US6189393]
-US6219960(B1) [US6219960]
-US6255959(B1) [US6255959]
-US6266918(B1) [US6266918]
Cited by the applicant
-US3564750(A) [US3564750]
-US5329726(A) [US5329726]
-US5575105(A) [US5575105]
-US5592774(A) [US5592774]
-US5899018(A) [US5899018]
-US5901496(A) [US5901496]
-"Systematic Termite Control(TM)" brochure; FMC Corporation; 7/99; 2 pp.
-"Termatrol Pro" brochure; Sector Diagnostics, LLC; no date; 2 pp.
-"Quarterra Extended Inspection Interval Station" brochure; Ensystex; no date; 2 pp.

Abstract :
(US6370811)
Apparatus, for detecting the presence and eating activity of organisms such as termites that damage structures, includes a body; a wooden bait element controllably exposed to the organisms within a cavity of the body, and having an applied bait substance; a side wall of the body having a vertically spaced plurality of smoothly converging entrance passages for admitting the organisms, a consumable porous barrier covering each of the entrance passages. Spring tension is applied to an upper end of the bait element, an opposite end being anchored to the

body. A flag member that is connected to the upper end of the bait element projects from the body when the bait element is weakened to the predetermined amount by the organisms.

Object of Invention :

(US6370811)

The present invention relates to pest control, and more particularly to monitoring termite activity proximate and especially under building structures.

In one aspect of the invention, an apparatus for signaling a cumulative amount of weakening of a test material resulting from exposure to a hazardous environment includes a body; a test element supported relative to the body and comprising the test material; means for controllably exposing the test element to the hazardous environment; means for applying a load force to the test element, the load force being effective for displacing a portion of the test element when there is a predetermined amount of weakening of the test element; a flag member movably supported relative to the body and coupled to the test element for movement in projecting relation to the body when the test element is weakened to the predetermined amount.

In another aspect of the invention, an apparatus for detecting the presence and eating activity of organisms that damage structures by consuming portions thereof includes the body; a bait element supported relative to the body and comprising a consumable structural material; means for controllably exposing the bait element to the organisms; means for applying a load force to the bait element, the load force being effective for displacing a portion of the bait element when there is a predetermined amount of weakening of the bait element; a flag member movably supported relative to the body and coupled to the bait element for movement in projecting relation to the body when the bait element is weakened to the predetermined amount by the organisms.

Advantages / Prev. Drawbacks :

(US6370811)

Thus there is a need for a device that facilitates detection and monitoring of infestation of soil environments of building structures by destructive organisms, that is both effective and easy to use, and that is inexpensive to provide.

The outwardly directed condensation advantageously creates an enlarged moisture barrier around the housing 12, thereby enhancing the attraction of termite activity to the monitor apparatus 10.

Termite infestation and damage is a continuing problem in buildings having wood structure.

- b. the original placement of the unit is difficult to determine;

2. They are difficult to install and monitor, especially when implanted in crawl space under structures.

Independent Claims :

(US6370811)

1. Apparatus for signaling a cumulative amount of weakening of a test material resulting from exposure to a hazardous environment, comprising:

(a) a body;

(b) a test element supported relative to the body and comprising the test material;

(c) means for controllably exposing the test element to the hazardous environment;

(d) means for applying a load force to the test element, the load force being effective for displacing a portion of the test element when there is a predetermined amount of weakening of the test element;

(e) a flag member movably supported relative to the body and coupled to the test element for movement in projecting relation to the body when the test element is weakened to the predetermined amount.

3. Apparatus for detecting the presence and eating activity of organisms that damage structures by consuming portions thereof, the apparatus comprising:

(a) a body;
(b) a bait element supported relative to the body and comprising a consumable structural material;
(c) means for controllably exposing the bait element to the organisms;
(d) means for applying a load force to the bait element, the load force being effective for displacing a portion of the bait element when there is a predetermined amount of weakening of the bait element;
(e) a flag member movably supported relative to the body and coupled to the bait element for movement in projecting relation to the body when the bait element is weakened to the predetermined amount by the organisms.

17. A method for monitoring a predetermined cumulative eating activity of organisms on a bait member, comprising:
(a) providing a housing body having an elongate cavity and a side wall passage;
(b) anchoring one end of the bait member to the body with the bait member extending within the cavity;
(c) connecting a flag member to an opposite end of the bait member with the flag member extending to proximate a flag opening of the body;
(d) connecting a spring member between the flag member and the housing body for tensioning the bait member;
(e) placing the housing body in a medium subject to infestation by the organisms with the side wall passage being accessible by the organisms and the flag opening being located outside the medium; and
(f) periodically observing the housing body for display to the flag member in an extended position thereof.

19. Apparatus for detecting the presence and eating activity of organisms that damage structures by consuming portions thereof, the apparatus comprising:
(a) a body forming an elongate housing having respective bottom and top extremities;
(b) a bait element supported relative to the body and comprising a wood member having a bait substance applied thereto;
(c) means for controllably exposing the bait element to the organisms, comprising the body having a cavity for enclosing the bait element, a side wall of the body having a vertically spaced plurality of entrance passages formed therein for admitting the organisms, the entrance passages extending between a first opening in an outside surface of the side wall and a second opening in an inside surface of the side wall, the first opening having a first area, the second opening having a second area being less than the first area, the passages smoothly tapering between the first area and the second area, a consumable porous barrier member covering each of the entrance passages, the entrance passages and the barrier member being on a first face of the body, the body also including a second face having counterparts of the entrance passages and the barrier member;
(d) means for applying a load force to the bait element, comprising a first coupling for anchoring one end to the bait element to the body, a second coupling for connecting an opposite end of the bait element, and a spring for applying tensile load to the bait element through the second coupling,
the load force being effective for displacing a portion of the bait element when there is a predetermined amount of weakening of the bait element;
(e) a flag member movably supported relative to the body and connected to the second coupling for movement in projecting relation to the body when the bait element is weakened to the predetermined amount by the organisms.

Update New docs :
2002-17

1 / 1 LGST - ©EPO

Patent Number :

US6370811 B1 20020416 [US6370811](B1) Granted patent as first publication

Application Number :

US62846300 20000731 [2000US-0628463]

Publication actions :

20000731 US-API [POS; EXM]
FILING DETAILS
US62846300 20000731 [2000US-0628463]
20020416 US-B1 [POS; PIF]
Granted patent as first publication
US6370811 B1 20020416 [US6370811]

Action Taken :

20040803 US/RF-A [OPP]
REISSUE APPLICATION FILED
EFFECTIVE DATE: 20040415

Lasted Event Group :

OPP
Alive

Update Code :

2004-34

1 / 1 CRXX - ©CLAIMS/RRX

Patent Number :

6,370,811 A 20020416 [US6370811]

Patent Assignee :

Masterson, Michael J

Actions :

20040415 REISSUE REQUESTED
ISSUE DATE OF O.G.: 20040803
REISSUE REQUEST NUMBER: 10/826905
EXAMINATION GROUP RESPONSIBLE FOR REISSUEPROCESS: 3643

Reissue Patent Number:

1 / 1 PLUSPAT - ©Questel

Patent Number :
US6370811 B1 20020416 [US6370811]

Title :
(B1) Apparatus and method for monitoring termite activity

Inventor(s) :
(B1) MASTERSON MICHAEL J (US)

Application Nbr :
US62846300 20000731 [2000US-0628463]

Priority Details :
US62846300 20000731 [2000US-0628463]

Intl Patent Class :
(B1) A01M-001/10

IPC Advanced All :
A01M-001/02 [2006-01 A - I R M EP]; A01M-001/20 [2006-01 A - I R M EP]

IPC Core All :
A01M-001/02 [2006 C - I R M EP]; A01M-001/20 [2006 C - I R M EP]

EPO ECLA Class :
A01M-001/20B1
A01M-001/02E

EPO ICO Class :
K01M-200/011

:
ORIGINAL (O) : 043121000; CROSS-REFERENCE (X) : 043124000 043131000 043132100 340573100

Document Type :
Basic

Citations :
Cited in the search report
-US6016625(A)[US6016625]
-US6065241(A)[US6065241]
-US6100805(A)[US6100805]
-US6158166(A)[US6158166]
-US6189393(B1)[US6189393]
-US6219960(B1)[US6219960]
-US6255959(B1)[US6255959]
-US6266918(B1)[US6266918]
Cited by the applicant
-US3564750(A)[US3564750]
-US5329726(A)[US5329726]
-US5575105(A)[US5575105]
-US5592774(A)[US5592774]
-US5899018(A)[US5899018]
-US5901496(A)[US5901496]
-"Systematic Termite Control(TM)" brochure; FMC Corporation; 7/99; 2 pp.
-"Termatrol Pro" brochure; Sector Diagnostics, LLC; no date; 2 pp.
-"Quarterra Extended Inspection Interval Station" brochure; Ensystex; no date; 2 pp.

Publication Stage :
(B1) U.S. Patent (no pre-grant pub.) after Jan. 2, 2001

Abstract :
Apparatus, for detecting the presence and eating activity of organisms such as termites that damage structures, includes a body; a wooden bait element controllably exposed to the organisms within a cavity of the body, and having an applied bait substance; a side wall of the body having a vertically spaced plurality of smoothly converging entrance passages for admitting the organisms, a consumable porous barrier covering each of the entrance passages. Spring tension is applied to an upper end of the bait element, an opposite end being anchored to the body. A flag member that is connected to the upper end of the bait

element projects from the body when the bait element is weakened to the predetermined amount by the organisms.

Update Code :
2002-17

1 / 1 LGST - ©EPO

Patent Number :
US6370811 B1 20020416 [US6370811](B1) Granted patent as first publication

Application Number :
US62846300 20000731 [2000US-0628463]

Publication actions :
20000731 US-API [POS; EXM]
FILING DETAILS
US62846300 20000731 [2000US-0628463]
20020416 US-B1 [POS; PIF]
Granted patent as first publication
US6370811 B1 20020416 [US6370811]

Action Taken :
20040803 US/RF-A [OPP]
REISSUE APPLICATION FILED
EFFECTIVE DATE: 20040415

Lasted Event Group :
OPP
Alive

Update Code :
2004-34

1 / 1 CRXX - ©CLAIMS/RRX

Patent Number :
6,370,811 A 20020416 [US6370811]

Patent Assignee :
Masterson, Michael J

Actions :
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ISSUE DATE OF O.G.: 20040803
REISSUE REQUEST NUMBER: 10/826905
EXAMINATION GROUP RESPONSIBLE FOR REISSUEPROCESS: 3643

Reissue Patent Number: